



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
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The Honorable John Carney,
Governor

John McNeal, Director
SCPD

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2023

TO: Delaware Department of Education
Office of the Secretary/Attn: Regulation Review

FROM: Benjamin Shrader, Chairperson 
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: Proposed DOE Regulation [525 Requirements for Career and Technical Education Programs of Study, 26 DE 798 (April 1, 2023)]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the proposed Delaware Department of Education's (DDOE's) to amend 14 Del. Admin. C. § 525, which governs the requirements for career and technical education ("CTE") programs of study. The proposed regulation was published as 26 DE Reg. 798 in the April 1, 2023, issue of the Register of Regulations.

The SCPD has the following observations:

- As background, CTE is "an organized set of educational activities that provide students with rigorous academic content, relevant technical knowledge and skills, and leadership development or provide students with the opportunity to participate in work-based learning and to earn a recognized postsecondary credential as well as advanced postsecondary credit or standing."¹
- The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act of 2019 ("Perkins V"), emphasizes the "development of employability skills of all students through CTE programs, including special populations, such as individuals with disabilities."²

¹ 14 Del. Admin. C. § 525.2.0.

² <https://www.nsba.org/ASBJ/2019/October/CTE-Special-Education> See also <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED608895.pdf>.

- Data collected on CTE programs shows students with disabilities who participate in CTE programs made significant progress academically, are more likely to graduate, and are more likely to attain employment upon graduation.³
- The proposed changes in §§ 3.2, 4.2, 5.2.2, and 5.2.3 center around the inclusion of SEL in CTE programs. Evidence has shown that SEL is not a “one size fits all” approach and that an education which promotes SEL, has a positive impact on a range of outcomes including academic performance, healthy relationships, and mental wellbeing.⁴ Moreover, integration of SEL into CTE specifically can help prepare youth to “thrive and succeed in the workplace.”⁵
- The proposed change in § 5.2.10 would add a requirement that LEAs award students one hour of instructional time for each hour of “career immersion experience.” This proposed change provides additional support for students with disabilities to meet high school graduation requirements.

SCPD endorses the proposed regulation as the inclusion of SEL in CTE programs is a benefit for all students, especially students with disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our observations or recommendations on the proposed regulation.

cc: Ms. Laura Waterland, Esq., DLP
Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council

26 DE. Reg. 798 DDOE CTE 04-24-23

³ *Id.*

⁴ <https://casel.org/fundamentals-of-sel/what-does-the-research-say/>.

⁵ <https://casel.org/fundamentals-of-sel/how-does-sel-support-your-priorities/sel-and-workforce-preparation/>. See also <https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/career-technical-educators-call-social-emotional-learning-a-huge-value-in-schools> and <https://www.acteonline.org/tech-imaggo-transform-cte/>.